# McGILL DAILY

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# Social sciences hit

by Katherine Gutkind and Andrew Plank

The biases of the social sciences and their role in society were discussed by three panelists yesterday at a conference organized by the Mouvement Revolutionnaire des Etudiants du Québec (MREQ).

Speaking before an audience of about 150 people, Canadian history professor John Thompson explained that the "irrelevant" curriculum was not so much a fault of the school system but rather, was due to the way scholars interpret Canadian history. "Historians tend to homogenize Canadian history, emphasizing Central Canada, while delegitimizing the other provinces," Thompson said. "They also try to avoid defining problems in terms of class conflict."

Thompson pointed out that Canadian history is studied by way of elitist biographies which, in effect, hide the existence of the worker. Historians claim that these are the only available sources but Thompson points to a recent trend that concentrates more on working class and minority group history.

Sociology professor Phil Ehrensaft, using the example of Marxist economist Paul Baran and his hardships at Stanford University, described the intense pressures put on professors to conform to traditional ideas. But he pointed out that Baran was still able to make significant contributions to an understanding of Third World development and helped political movements develop some of their strategies.

Ehrensaft stressed the need for in-depth research and study, noting that "until now all there has been is a lot of muckraking and it is time to get down to some analytical work."

MREQ member Julian Sher said there was "a ruling class of monopolists, financiers and bankers who control their state and the schools, who use the social sciences to promote their ideas and fix up their system." He said big business exercises its control through state policies like the Depres reform, which is designed to "rationalize" the education system, through its predominance on university boards of governors, and through heavy corporate funding of research.

Sher noted that ideas pushed in the social sciences negate the existence of social classes and class conflict and encourage active support for "a decaying system" by promoting racism, sexism, individualism and cynicism.

Arguing that "the schools, as part of the state apparatus, are not going to fundamentally change until society changes first," Sher said student-staff control of the university was "an unrealizeable and illusory goal" since "the real decision-making power lies elsewhere."

But he said students "can take on the corporations and their bourgeois ideas right now," by linking up with working people's struggles to fight the system, countering the pro-status quo ideas in the classrooms, and "taking on big business blow for blow, resisting its attempts to repress students and teachers and to rationalize its school system."

In the often heated discussion period which followed the talks, Ehrensaft asked what prompted students to attend such a conference. Participants noted that many students were alienated by their courses but lacked an alternative direction.

People pointed out that with the job market shrinking and the economic crisis polarizing the middle classes, it was important to get as many students as possible to side with the working people and not big corporations.

# Sherbrooke U. budget cut

by Joan Shields

The department of Social Work at the University of Sherbrooke is to be closed down completely in two years as a result of severe budget cuts ordered by the Quebec government. Cuts in teaching services, research, various faculties and building maintenance were also announced.

Last Wednesday, students, professors and maintenance workers at the university showed their discontent with the proposals by walking out. Representatives of the university were sent to Quebec City in an attempt to meet with Education Minister Francois Cloutier to voice their objections to the cutbacks.

The only francophone university in the Eastern Townships, Sherbrooke University has been in operation for twenty years. With 10,000 students, 550 professors and 2,000 permanent employees, the university is one of the biggest employers in Sherbrooke and the Eastern Townships.

Investments in the university have totalled $97 million since its founding. The university has always gone over budget, and it now faces an accumulated deficit of $8 million. In a drastic measure, the Quebec government demanded that the university cut next year's proposed budget by $800,000.

The administration wanted the Arts faculty cut down by $200,000, and decided to cut a whole department rather than take smaller chunks from a few, such as Philosophy, English and History. The School of Social Work was shut down because it was the department with the biggest budget in the Arts faculty.

People in the department denounced the cutbacks and the fact that they weren't consulted by the administration before the proposal was made public. The cutbacks drew protests from all corners of the province — 300 supporters from social work departments at McGill, the University of Montreal, UQUAM and Laval recently gathered at Sherbrooke in a show of solidarity.

The decision to cut the social work faculty at Sherbrooke was especially untimely since the

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## ANGELA DAVIS

**Angela Davis will speak at McGill on Saturday, November 23, at 7:30 pm in the Union Ballroom. She will speak on racism, prisons and both American and Canadian immigration policies. Sponsored by BSA Dawson, McGill University, League des femmes, McGill Debating Union.**

## ATTENTION ALL DAILY STAFFERS

**Come to Happy Hour at 5 pm in the Daily office today for a refreshing discussion about the paper. Afterwards you can visit Gertrude.**

# Unionization in library progresses

by Joan Mandell

The attempt to unionize McGill's library employees is now entering its second year.

Last year, convinced that the union protection was the best way to redress the grievances they had with the administration, several library assistants began a union drive.

"Unions have a tendency to improve working conditions for their members—they extend the legal rights that people have," said Sheila Lanthier, a library assitant in the MacLennan Rare Books department and a member of the co-ordinating committee for the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) union drive.

"Unions are also important because of their responsibility aspect," said Tom Archibald, another worker in MacLennan's Rare Book department and an active member of the drive. "If you belong to a union, you have the responsibility to determine your job and to consider what you are doing. This can result in a less alienating situation on the job," he said. He added that unions are only as strong as their members.

To be accredited by the province, the union must recruit one more than half of McGill's 250-odd library assistants.

To reach this goal, organizing

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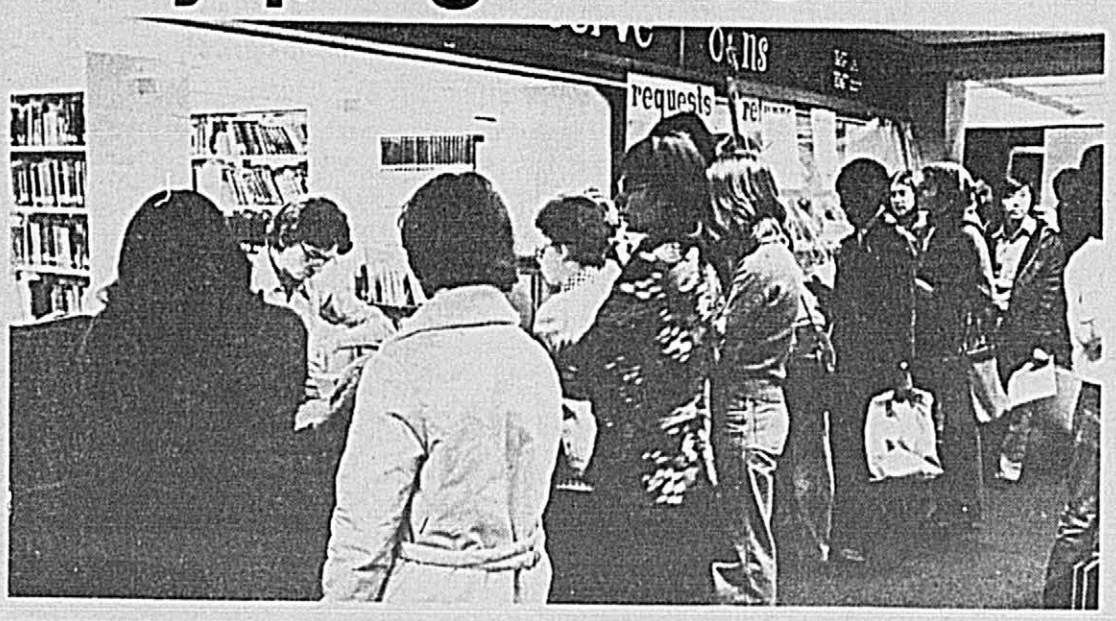

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## Sherbrooke...

Continued from page 1

nature and direction of social work in Quebec is under debate. Some members of the Sherbrooke department are wondering whether the budget cutbacks are a handy excuse to do away with a group well-known on campus for its radical ideas.

Students in second year at Sherbrooke, who will be the first affected by the project, call the cutback a "knife in the back". They maintain that the university's decision has destroyed the faith of future students who will have the impression their courses can be dropped at a moment's notice.

Charges have been made that the university is completely dominated by the government, and that the Sherbrooke administration responded to the government's wishes without considering the needs of the students. Some analysts have said that the budget cuts wouldn't be necessary if the government worked out a better distribution of university grants, and admitted that its budget calculations are often unrealistic.

The Department of Social Work at Sherbrooke is the only one in North America that offers a cooperative program in French for people who are working and want to continue their studies. The department was also planning to offer a doctorate program in Quebec, rather than forcing students to study in Toronto or the United States.

If the proposed department cut is carried through, social work in both the universities and in agencies throughout Quebec will suffer. The action the Social Work Department at Sherbrooke will take in the weeks to come will be crucial if the department refuses to be intimidated by the university's administration and the Quebec government.

# Apathy in Students' Society elections

by Donna Balkan

Due to lack of interest on the part of students, nominations for several Students' Society positions have been re-opened. No nominations have been received for Council seats in the faculties of Architecture, Education, Music, Nursing, Physical & Occupational Therapy or Dentistry.

In the Senate by-elections, there have been no nominations submitted for seats in Dentistry, Graduate Studies, Medicine or Music.

Acting Chief returning officer Rod Charters attributes the apathy on campus to "a reaction against the political unrest of the 60s." He also criticized the Daily for not presenting enough information about Students' Society affairs.

According to Charters, there has been an attempt on the part of the Students' Society to create interest in the elections. Four large advertisements calling for nominations appeared in the Daily in the past two weeks.

Nominations for all positions yet unfilled have been extended to 4 pm Thursday, November 28. The elections for both Council and Senate seats have been postponed until Tuesday, December 10, rather than December 5 as previously announced.

When asked for his opinion on the cause of student apathy at McGill Internal Vice-President Michael Johnson stated, "I'm too apathetic to say anything about that!"

As it now stands, the following individuals have submitted nominations:

Council:
Arts & Science (3):
Bruce Campbell
Debra Fogel
Campbell Hendery
Phillip Inhaber
Jeff Shiroky
Engineering (2):
Victor Schukow (Acclaimed)
Law (1):
Tom Mulcair (Acclaimed)
Management (1):
Gerry Lalancette (Acclaimed)
Medicine (1):
Robert Perlman (Acclaimed)
Religious Studies (1):
Rod Charters (Acclaimed)
Graduate Studies (2):
Robert Vallee (Acclaimed)
Senate:
Science (1):
Peter Garber
Phillip Inhaber
Marcel Mongeon
Engineering (1):
Len Shara
Soly Haboucha

# New drug laws unveiled soon

OTTAWA (CUP) — The Federal government is expected to unveil its long awaited legislation to soften criminal penalties relating to marijuana and hashish this week. (November 18.)

The new law is expected to reduce the penalties for possession of marijuana and hashish by prescribing only a fine for most offences.

It is expected that the new legislation will allow the level of fines to be raised if the offense is repeated and jail will be ordered for offenders only if they cannot or will not pay the fine.

The new legislation will place marijuana and hashish in the "soft drugs" category under the Food and Drug Act. The cannabis drugs are now under the Narcotics Control Act, which lumps them in with hard drugs like heroin.

The new law also distinguishes between importing and trafficking in cannabis for personal use by allowing prosecutors to proceed in court by indictment or summary conviction.

The unveiling of the new law follows four years of hesitation by the government and two years of waffling by the Liberal cabinet since the outline of the new legislation was announced in July, 1970 by former Health Minister John Munro.

The LeDain Commission on the non-medical use of drugs recommended in June 1970 that imprisonment for the possession of all mind-alterning drugs should be abolished but the recommendations were rejected by the Liberal cabinet.

The introduction of the new cannabis legislation has caused angry protests from within the Liberal party caucus with several MP's calling for a "free vote" where MP's are not bound to vote with their party but can vote on their own on the legislation.

## Library...

Continued from page 1

work is progressing.

This year, several library assistants have been putting out a monthly newsletter, **Overdue** for the future CUPE local at McGill. In the last issue, articles about women workers, an interview with a CUPE technical advisor, and the four day work-week in the MacLennan library were featured.

"**Overdue**" is circulated among all library assistants and "all assistants are encouraged to express their views in it," said Luda Shpak, a Redpath circulation assistant and recruiting drive member.

Also being planned for later this year are forums on problems that affect all library assistants such as inflation. One on women is also planned.

Eighty per cent of the people working in the library system are women.

"Women face special problems beside the ones that all staff face," said Shpak. "The forum could focus on concrete issues such as maternity leave, day care, better working conditions for part-time workers, and the special discrimination that faces women workers," she said.

**Attempts to discredit CUPE**

"Since we're not an accredited union, we're not a bargaining unit yet. But last year we brought up many issues—some of which changed library policy," said Larry Feldman, a worker in MacLennan library and a member of the union drive's co-ordinating committee.

After last year's firing of Bill Harridial, a medical library assistant, the validity of the grievance procedure was put into question with the help of union organizers. On another occasion, when the library administration questioned the right to petition in the library, two union members helped set up a fair petitioning-procedure.

With successes of the union drive have come attempts to discredit CUPE and misrepresent unions in general.

"One of the most serious problems we faced last year," said Shpak, "was people's fears of unions based on what they read in newspapers. People don't hear about the positive aspects of unions — creating jobs, better working conditions, and security," she said.

"The administration has begun to try to put salaries at par with those earned at unionized libraries," said Feldman. "Most innovations are copies of those earned a year or two before by unions elsewhere," he said.

**Other problems**

Another problem for the union drive was created by the introduction of McGill's Non-Academic Staff Association (MUNASA) into the library last January. MUNASA is a non-accredited staff association grouping 900 of McGill's 1,800 non-academic staff members.

"MUNASA has been around at McGill for a long time and nobody can see what it's done for its members," said Lanthier.

"MUNASA came in and was presented as an alternate representative of the library workers; the administration encourages MUNASA," she said.

Shpak charged that MUNASA is dominated by management and so cannot work in the interests of McGill employees. "It has no legal status as an employee's association and therefore cannot exert any pressure," she said.

"MUNASA has resorted to such practices as giving trips to Florida for two," said Feldman. "We can't give things away, because we're a group of people fighting for a bargaining unit recognized by law and for us to solicit is illegal," he said.

One library worker compared his situation to that of students at McGill. "When you're a student, you can feel the administration weighing on you. In the library, we have no control over what goes on from day to day. Our councils and committees are basically impotent — they are only advisory bodies."

"With a union, the library workers would be able to decide what's relevant to them rather than what's required by the administration."

# Garden State no Eden

(CPS-CUP) — Convicted and fined $50 for the crime of committing fornication, Charles Saunders, 20, is challenging the 1796 New Jersey law that makes it illegal for single persons to have sexual relations.

Saunders argued before Judge Stanley G. Bedford that the statute was unconstitutional because it was seldom enforced, violated his right of privacy and was established in the "prevailing notions of religious morality of the latter 18th century".

But Bedford rejected the arguments, saying that the state has "compelling secular reasons" to enforce the law in order to prevent the birth of illegitimate children and the spread of venereal disease.

In addition, Bedford ruled, it is up to the legislature, not the courts, to decide whether the state should keep the law.

Saunders is appealing the decision.

# Editorial

## Food aid: trap for Third World

The recent World Food Conference in Rome demonstrated that the world's oppressed peoples cannot hope to enjoy a decent standard of living until they become independent of the imperialist powers.

Previous UN conferences, under pressure from the Third World countries, have vaguely agreed that there is a need for "a new economic order". However, the food conference created no long term plan that would fundamentally change the imperialist exploitation of underdeveloped countries that presently serves the ruling classes of both the developed and many of the underdeveloped countries.

Under the guise of offering "humanitarian aid", the grain-rich imperialist countries showed during the conference that they are only interested in perpetuating the dependence of the Third World countries.

The United States, West Germany, and France made it clear that they are not interested in joining the oil-producing countries in the creation of an agricultural development fund. They much prefer the political leverage afforded by bilateral aid to any multilateral schemes.

The conference agreed to double the flow of food aid in the next three years. On the one hand this will increase the bargaining power of the rich countries with the poor ones by increasing the stakes and on the other hand it will serve to alleviate the social unrest and political upheaval that would otherwise certainly result in the immediate future.

Other measures adopted by the conference — building of stockpiles by grain producers, exchange of information on supply and demand conditions, and creation of a World Food Council — were also food "aid" oriented and thus serve only to increase the efficiency with which the imperialist powers function to maintain Third World economics of dependence.

The pattern of US food "aid" demonstrates the political motivation behind its use. More than half of the $1 billion Food for Peace program is presently being channeled to South Vietnam, Cambodia, Chile, and various nations in the Middle East, all of which are presently crisis spots for US imperialism. None of these countries are among those most acutely threatened by hunger.

As usual, some attempts were made to blame economic problems on population, technology, and the weather. However, it is clear that these factors only cause problems when an exploitative economic system allows them to.

China, with far more mouths to feed than India and less cultivatable land, has been moving towards self-reliance very rapidly since the revolution that ended the colonial and semi-feudal exploitation of her people. While India's famines have multiplied the Chinese people have learned how to become self-sufficient.

The food problem will not be solved by members of the ruling elite discussing the problem over caviar in Rome. The problem can only be solved by the people who will defy the ruling elite and overthrow the exploitative economic system that oppresses them.

The Third World countries, which this year face enormous food problems, appear to have shown little resistance to the aid-oriented thinking that dominated the conference, because in the short run that would have been suicidal.

Andrew Plank

From our readers

# Daily misuses powers of the press

The McGill Daily has now overstepped even the widest possible boundaries of a university newspaper. I am responding to its issue of Friday, November 15, as an example of the unilateral irresponsible policy of a newspaper which purports to be a forum for McGill students and part of the McGill structure.

It is obvious to anyone who bothers to read the McGill Daily that there is a "new left" editorial board; they are overly concerned with political situations very distant from them both historically and physically but about which they unfortunately do not bother to research the complex facts. It is much easier to utilize political slogans and climb on the student political bandwagon. However, there comes a dangerous point at which public property like the Daily stops being a free press, begins to misuse the power of the press, and becomes a propaganda sheet of minority opinion.

On November 15 the McGill Daily reached that point: it is very clear that included in the "new left" ideology is an anti-Israel, pro-PLO approach to the Middle East conflict. I am not going to enter into details of this conflict nor present arguments and counterarguments. However, when the Daily devotes its editorial article to the "PLO Victory" and one-half of its front page to the protest of 1700 PLO supporters near the UN (in New York), including 15 McGill students, and totally ignores the hundreds of thousands of anti-PLO supporters, nor mentions the 3,500 anti-PLO demonstrators (in Montreal), a great number of whom were McGill students and professors, then it becomes a question of irresponsible news reporting. This is barely acceptable behaviour for a revolutionary pamphlet. To do so in a newspaper which carries the McGill name is to dirty the entire meaning of a "university."

The Daily should be a free forum of ideas, communicating students' interests and interest. It has no moral right to present one viewpoint only and consistently as editorial policy, nor to arrange facts and omissions to suit their purposes. It should at least give the students some credit for being able to decide on issues from among all the facts. If such distant political issues have any place on a student newspaper, then only those qualified (i.e. those who have done intensive research in these fields) should present them. At the very least, attention should be drawn over a wider political field (including local). The very fact that for at least the past two years no mention has been made of minority persecution not in vogue with the "new left," such as the annihilation of the Kurds in Iraq, the massacre of non-Moslem Africans in South Sudan, the oppression of Jews in Syria and the USSR, shows the Daily's selective attitude towards world problems.

We all know the power of the press in forming public opinion. In the case of the McGill Daily this power has fallen by default into the hands of a political minority as a result of the vacuum left by sheer student indifference. It is time that McGill students had responsible campus press rather than unilateral opinionating. In future I suggest that students take a closer look at who controls communications and information dispersal on McGill campus. McGill students should pay more attention to the undemocratic arbitrary appointment of the McGill Daily editorial board.

Shay Shohamy
Institute of Air and Space Law
Law Faculty

# Letters

**A missed piece of sarcasm**

To the Daily:

It seems to me that the Workers Support Committee were sitting around one night with nothing to do, and decided to tear apart the recent issue of the Free Press. While I cannot refute their accusations against other reporters (they will doubtless do this themselves), I can answer their misreading of my article.

My complaint is not "essentially that the porters are incapable of communicating with McGill students", but that McGill students are getting inadequate service. Had the members of the Committee read the article, they would have seen that only part of it concerned the problem of communication. However, as they have seen fit to attack this part of the article, I feel obliged to defend my words.

Mr. Rossi, named in the article, was originally hired as a cleaner. He was only pushed into a position he is not qualified to fill because the gentlemen in Buildings and Grounds felt, no doubt, that it was easier to get one man to do two jobs rather than hire new staff.

As to my misunderstanding of McGill hiring policy, I thought I was dripping with sarcasm when I said "McGill should be applauded for opening job opportunities to non-English workers". Perhaps we do not share the same sense of humour. I apologise for having made this assumption.

Finally, the Committee told me to direct my complaints to the administration. I quote "When a student wrote... to complain, she received no answer". This is not a solitary example. I have met many students who have had letters of complaint ignored or dismissed as unimportant. Never do I accuse the workers for the lack of services given the student. Again, I quote "why do so many of the... administrators show so little concern for the students?"

I am not concerned with the ethnic background of workers at McGill or anywhere else. What bothers me is that I should be able to communicate with these people in one of the official languages of this country. This is what I ask of the administration, that they spend our money to hire qualified staff.

Debra Fogel
Arts U2

**Cans to be cleaned**

To the Daily:

I would like to respond to Don Woticky's letter (Nov. 13th) complaining about the condition of the washrooms in the Union. I certainly agree with him that it is disgusting that they have been allowed to degenerate to such a state over the last five or six years.

However, I have been working on this problem over the last eight weeks and can assure you that it will be solved in the near future. Several months ago I spoke to Dr. Yaffe, vice-principal (administration) of the university, in order to see if McGill would be willing to pay for renovating the washrooms. He asked me to get an estimate made and to ask him again.

We now have an estimate for replacing all toilet stalls, improving lighting, replacing toilet paper and towel dispensers and various painting. Several contractors are ready and waiting to do the job. I hope to hear from Dr. Yaffe in the next week. If the administration is unwilling to spend the approximately $7,000 that is needed, we will be forced to draw on the dwindling Students' Society resources.

Michael Johnson
Internal Vice-President
Students' Society

Comment

# Re-evaluating the Students' Society

Each year every student pays a Students' Society fee (most pay $24) which is collected by, and channeled through the administration to a supposedly "autonomous" Students' Society. This fee has remained unchanged for ten years, while inflation has gnawed away at the Students' Society's real income.

The Students' Society executive has repeatedly said that the Society's financial burden will have to be alleviated one way or the other. At this juncture, Students' Council is toying with two alternatives: holding a referendum for students to vote themselves a fee increase; or asking the administration to pay for the Union building by raising Students' Services fees.

Since all councillors agree that there is little likelihood of success with the referendum, it is still unclear whether students will be consulted about this decision or not.

The obvious lack of student interest in the Students' Society is realized by all councillors. Those from the professional faculties usually suggest that this is because their fellow students don't participate in Students' Society activities, which cater, they say, mostly to Arts students.

Students' Society President George Archer has, however, another explanation. He says that the problem is "psychological" — students just aren't aware of how many activities the Students' Society funds.

Is the apathetic response to the Society really just a psychological barrier, or does the problem stem from the very nature of the Society itself?

In this article, the first of a series on the Students' Society, we will take a look at the performance of this year's Students' Council, and in particular, at the executive. (The term "executive" in this article, as in all Daily articles, refers to the President, Internal Vice-President, and External Vice-President. Constitutionally, the Daily editor is a non-elected member of the executive, but, in fact, has not been involved in any executive decisions for about two months. Prior to that, the only major executive decision the editor helped make was the Frank Costi decision. As a non-voting member of Council and a non-participating member of the executive, the editor's role on Students' Council tends to be one of observer rather than decision-maker.)

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The accomplishments of the Students' Council thus far have been the following: (1) doling out money to activities and clubs according to the recommendations of Michael Johnson, the internal vice-president and unofficial finance director (Arts representative Campbell Hendery is finance director in name only); (2) deciding to let this person or that group sell U-save cards, jewelery, vegetables, books, stationery, candles, calculators, etc., in the Union building; (3) financing the Union, typesetting, and the pub.

New initiatives of the Students' Society boil down to getting rid of Frank Costi as building manager, setting up the pub, and writing a letter to Prime Minister Trudeau protesting Canadian complicity in Chile.

**Students' Council mainly allocates funds**

Looking over the list of accomplishments, with few exceptions, most involve the allocation of funds. The way this is done is that Johnson presents a budget, runs down the items and amounts requested, and Council, with a few perfunctory questions, passes it. It's all very routine and arbitrary, as any Councillor will probably admit.

The only time there are any disagreements is when someone decides that there's something "political" behind a request. "Humanitarian" undertakings like the Honduras Relief Fund are okay, but "political" activities like the alleged political point of view taken by Amnesty International are suspect. Second to funding the usual clubs and activities, grants for charity projects and reform organizations like Montreal Citizens' Movement and Save Montreal are Council's decided preferences.

In this sense, Council's priorities are remarkably similar to the administration's—harmless, fun-type student activities are never questioned because "that's what the students want;" reform organizations get a closer look but, by tugging at liberal heartstrings, they usually get by.

**Who do "representatives" represent?**

Who are these student "representatives" who sit on Council innocuously doling out money?

They are persons who obtained their position either by acclamation (for this year's upcoming elections, applications for Council positions had to be reopened for an additional week after five of the sixteen positions were taken by acclamation and nobody applied for 6 other positions) or by running in an election in which the voter turnout was between five and ten per cent.

In last year's election for the executive, for example, only eight per cent of the students even bothered to cast a vote.

Reflecting on the low voter turnout at the time, Johnson told the Daily that there had been a regrettable lack of "debate and discussion" during the elections; Archer said that he would try to "make student politics more meaningful to average students."

**No politics in last year's elections**

But even as both paid lip service to the necessity of politics and debate to activize students, there was a conspicuous absence of political positions in the platforms of each of the executive candidates.

Archer's platform said that he would publicize the Students' Society budget, encourage inter-faculty debate and social interaction, help teaching assistants and foreign students, and reduce inter-Students' Society bickering.

Johnson promised he would improve the Union building.

Michel Celemenski, external vice-president, threw out some nice ideas about documenting the administration's and government's responsibilities to students, organizing students against unfavourable administration and government decisions, and increasing the interaction between McGill and the community.

So of the three platforms, the only one that had any real potential for political activism was Celemenski's. But this potential has gone largely unrealized. Celemenski has made no contact, as far as we know, with the students engaged in struggles at other universities (against political repression at University of Montreal, against the Depres reform at the University of Quebec, against government cutbacks at University of Sherbrooke, and at the CEGEPs (walkouts at Rosemont and Valleyfield; the mass protests agains the T.A.E.U. tests). No studies have been made of the attempts by the government to centralize and homogenize higher education.

In the September 19 Council meeting, Celemenski talked about how "my own goals for this office are, as yet, relatively undefined. I feel that the main task at present is to publicize the function of the office and its possibilities, and to respond to student demands as they develop." After this explanation of how the undefined role of his office should be publicized, he went on to speak of waging "an anti-apathy campaign."

**What is the root of Students' Society's problems?**

What is the root cause of Celemenski's ineffectiveness, the "apathy" he sees in students, the lack of politics in the entire executive, the low voter turnout in Students' Society elections, and the tendency for the Society to be a source for funds and little else?

Celemenski himself pointed to the answer in a Daily interview at the end of last year:

"My impression of the present executive (Paul Drager and Earle Taylor) is that they feel the main role of the Students' Society was to provide primarily entertainment and some basic services. Although these things are important, we would like to deal with major problems like housing, food, course content, and the alienation of students as shown by the five students this year.

Not only have none of these "major problems" been tackled by the executive, they probably couldn't do anything about them if they tried. First of all, the Students' Society by its very nature is, as the administration well knows, a "service" organization. That's why they set it up in the first place—that's why they even bother to collect those $24 worth of fees at registration. Secondly, because the Students' Society is not a voluntary association based on a common political base, students have little reason to be interested in Students' Society, therefore it has no real power.

**No political unity underlying Students' Society**

If the executive ever tried to mobilize students, in whose name would they be speaking; who would they claim to represent? Since they were not elected on a clear political platform, and more to the point, since they head an organization that has no basis or unity, the lack of student support and participation is natural.

So the poor showing of this year's Students' Council and the executive is less a criticism of the individuals involved than an indication of a more serious flaw in the very nature of the Students' Society itself.

The Daily will explore this broader question of the nature of the Students' Society in future articles.

**Bonnie Price**

---

## George D. Archer,

Member Co-ordinating Committee, McGill T. A. Association
Student Representative Economics Department Committee; Faculty Council of Graduate Studies and Research
Former Graduate Student Representative Student Council

**Priorities:**
1) To publish a projected overall budget of the Students' Society in the first issue of the Daily.
2) To encourage, by all means available, activities which foster inter-faculty discussion, debate, and social interaction.
3) To play as strong a role as possible in the efforts of the McGill Teaching Assistants Association to obtain job and wage satisfaction from the Administration.
4) To do everything within my power to discourage the kind of counter-productive bickering which rendered the last Students' Council impotent.
5) To assist the foreign students to obtain a better return on their investment in the Students' Society. I.S.A. ought to be given more encouragement in the form of increased grants and possibly a non-voting seat on Council.

## Michael Johnson

The Students' Union Building has really gone down the drain this year. There are two reasons for this: 1) Costs of running the building have greatly increased; 2) This year's executive created so many problems that they had no time to solve problems.

**My proposals are:**

**UNION FINANCES:** The present executive is beginning to negotiate with the administration. I agree that we must get a subsidy from the administration, but we need not and we must not sacrifice any of our control over the building. I want to ensure that we get the best possible deal. The administration is interested in improving student services in order to attract students to McGill. As long as we assure them that we will use their money responsibly, I don't think they will demand that we give up our autonomy.

**CO-OPERATION:** Problems will be solved by hard work and a sincere attempt to communicate and co-operate.

**THE PUB:** With initiative and work it can be opened next fall.

**THE CAFETERIA:** A student controlled cafeteria, subsidized by the administration will be responsive to the demands of students.

**VOTE ARCHER—CELEMENSKI—JOHNSON**

## Michel Celemenski

Last year students organized to successfully oppose a fee hike for foreign students.

Next year students will be faced with other issues originating with the government and the administration.

Will the government reduce its educational budget? Will the administration cut back on allocations for teaching assistants and consequently lower our standard of education? Will McGill continue to tear down buildings on campus?

Students can influence these decisions if they are well-informed and willing to act. I will get the information required and help to organize students.

**I also propose to:**
— Document the government's and the administration's responsibilities to make sure that students are getting what they are entitled to
— Find out how other student organizations fund their activities
— Improve the bookstore
— Implement better job placement
— Increase interaction between McGill and the community.

**Qualifications:**
— Senate Development Committee 1972-73
— ASUS President 1973-74
— Bilingual

**VOTE ARCHER—JOHNSON—CELEMENSKI**

# Science, politics and the status quo

*This article was reprinted from "Science for the People", a bi-monthly publication of scientists and engineers for social and political action [SESPA].*

Science and politics are intimately related. Scientific research is a social activity which fulfills a social and political function. Yet, a great many people, including the overwhelming majority of scientists themselves, consider that science is a value-free and apolitical activity.

Science is the basis of our industrial civilization. It is responsible for instruments of war of immense power. Without it our lives would be unimaginably different. The effects of science-based technology on the lives of everyone in the world are so enormous that the social and hence political nature of science should be obvious.

**The Official View of Science**

The official picture of science is that of a continual interplay between fact and hypothesis. The function of hypothesis is firstly to account for a number of observed facts and secondly to predict some new facts. If the predictions are borne out by subsequent observation, the hypothesis is provisionally accepted, and will be tested further by extending it and/or rendering it more precise, hence leading to new predictions. If the predictions are not borne out, the hypothesis must be either abandoned in favor of an alternative or, more usually, modified to render it consistent with all the facts.

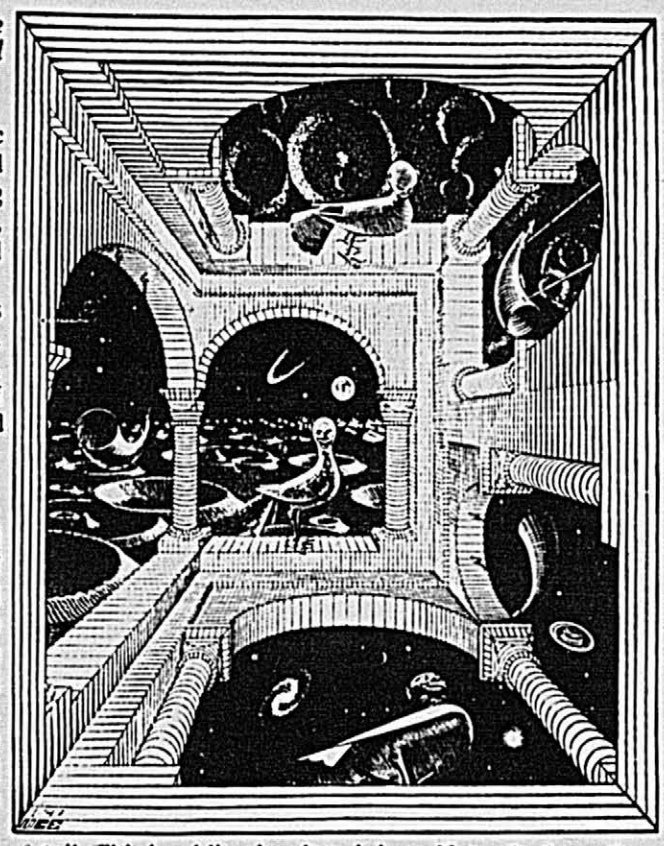
**Hidden Values of This View**

Before concluding that this process is really value-free, however, there are a number of points to be raised. Scientists do not treat all *facts* alike; although, they profess a great respect for facts and objectivity. They select for study those facts which fit into their hypothesis by either confirming or contradicting it. They ignore all other facts as irrelevant and indeed they could not do otherwise if "the scientific method" is to function. Nor are scientists interested equally in all *hypotheses* or fields of inquiry. They value only "testable" hypotheses, i.e., only hypotheses which function well in "the scientific method" by providing specific predictions which are open to factual verification. The role of *prediction* in this picture also expresses values, particularly the value of control.

**The Political Nature of Science**

Science is *not* neutral. It has both political and personal implications.

Prediction gives control to the few who have the means and takes it from the many who don't have access to the reins of technology. Life in a society with a science-based technology has been made so complicated that it seems impossible for any one person to understand it. This madness is officially made palatable for ordinary people by the argument that experts deal only with technical matters that the rest of us don't need to know about in



detail. This is adding insult to injury. Not only do we live in a situation where crucial decisions over our lives are inaccessible to us, but on top of that we have the smokescreen and truly Kafkaesque confusion that technology unfolds without any decisions being made.

Applying "the scientific method" to the study of *social* phenomena, we see the aim of a scientific investigation is to render the phenomena predictable within the framework of so-called, objective observation. Objective observation selects the *status quo* as the norm and attempts to predict why such non-normative behavior as crime, madness, riots, counterculture and "third" political parties occur. The purpose of this prediction is again to control these phenomena, even to prevent their appearance.

**Personal Implications Beyond the Political**

The official view of science, whether pure, technological or social, aims to leave prediction and control in the hands of the ruling class. It is not for the ordinary person to assume this role. The result is that science mystifies the world we live in, alienating people from their environment and themselves. This is the alienation felt by every ordinary person with respect to science: it is too complicated for any one person to understand. Indeed, it is difficult for anyone who is not a scientist to imagine how far the process of specialization and mutual incomprehension *has* gone. It is ironical that one of the favorite images of apologists for science is that of a primitive savage at the mercy of an environment (weather, crops, wild animals) that he can neither understand nor control, and can relate to only in terms of supersitition and gods. Supposedly the advance of science frees him from ignorance and dependence on natural forces. And yet if we look at our own situation, we are probably further from being able to control the factors that affect our lives than the so-called savage.

A second face of alienation concerns the experience of the scientist, whose specialization and isolation is equally disastrous since it deprives his work of its natural *raison d'etre.* But in addition to this social alienation, the supposedly amoral, apolitical nature of the work has a psychological consequence for the scientist. If a scientist retains any moral, emotional or political sensibility, it is in a very uncomfortable schizophrenia with his "scientific Self". But the result of existing solely at a rational, intellectual level is a gradual withering of emotional spontaneity. Furthermore, the refusal to admit the reality of political struggles leads to an aloof, detached liberalism which serves only to mask total complicity with the status quo. In this way the scientist becomes systematically dehumanized—a process which is reflected in the impersonal, hierarchial relationships which generally exist in scientific laboratories. The overall result is a vague alienation—which is difficult to grasp because it is so largely internalized.

**In Conclusion**

Science is a social activity and this particular philosophy of science has been chosen and developed for social and political reasons. And indeed the attractiveness for a ruling class of a science which produces power per se is obvious. The fact that this power is considered value-free immensely increases its utility for the ruling class, since it means that no restrictions are placed on the use of this power.

A radical transformation in the practice of science must take place. I do not believe that this transformaion of the nature of science can or should wait until some future revolution. On the contrary, as militant blacks and women have understood, there are some changes which can and must be fought for now. This is not to deny that the socialist revolution will be essential for the full transformation. Rather, the struggle to achieve the transformation is part of a political process which will include "the revolution" and the transfer of political power. But it must start now and it will continue after "the revolution" (like the Chinese cultural revolution) if the political revolution is truly going to change our lives.

What is to be done?

John Stewart

**ISA world cinema**

Friday November 22 12-2 pm in B 26-27 Student Union. ADMISSION FREE.

## Today

**East Asian Studies:**
"Horse: a unique symbol in Chinese Art" by Dr. Han Pei-Yuan. Fine Arts lecture room, top floor west wing Arts building. 3:30 pm.
**Have a heart:**
Help fight Multiple Sclerosis, buy K candles at Union. 10 am to 4 pm.
**Women's Union:**
Meeting to revise electoral by-laws and draw up budget. All interested in funding for specific projects are welcome. Union 467, 7 pm.
**Graduate Students:**
In Humanities and Social Sciences, a meeting to discuss a response to inquiry of Canada Council on present state and future of graduate studies and research in Canada. Dave Thomson House, 3650 McTavish. 4 pm.
**Christian Science Organization:**
All welcome to our meeting. Newman Centre, 3484 Peel. 3 pm.
**Arab Student Society:**
Get together, 317 Ontario East. 7:30 pm.
**McGill Players Club:**
Present lunchtime production of Jules Feiffer sketches. Union 3rd floor. 12:15 pm.
**Anthropologists in the field:**
Bernard Arcand discusses "Genocide on a daily basis: The Cuiva of Colombia". L738, 1 pm.
**English Drama Department:**
Auditions for Brecht's "Edward II" to be produced in January. Morrice Hall 106, 6 pm.
**Debating Union:**
Review and training in crucial elements of National Topic debating, practice debates for U. of Vermont for those going to Burlington. Union B42, 7:30 pm.
**Divine Light Society:**
Discussion of meditation on the knowledge of God as revealed by Guru Maharaj Ji. Union B26, 7 pm.
**Give a little, get a lot:**
Buy advertising space in the Daily — make sure your announcement is seen and read.
**Meeting on India:**
Sponsored by McGill Student Movement — Colonialism, Imperialism and Super-power Hegemonism are the root cause of famines. Union B23, 7:30 pm.
**Women's Intramural Swimming and Diving:**
Enter as many events as you want, bring a bathing suit and a friend. Weston Pool.

## What's What

**STATUS OF JESUS CHRIST IN ISLAM**
Lecture by Dr. Gamal Badawi. L 219, Friday, November 22 at 7 pm.
**McGILL PLAYERS CLUB**
Present a lunchtime production of Jules Feiffer sketches 3rd floor Union at 12:15 pm.
**CARIBBEAN STUDENTS**
General Meeting on charter flights, cultural w/e and other matters. Union B 26-27, Tuesday, November 26 at 7:15 pm.
**PRE-MED SOCIETY**
Dr. A. McLean will speak on "Intensive Care", Francis Seminar Room, Monday, November 25 at 1 pm.
**ANGELA A. DAVIS**
Will speak in Union Ballroom, Saturday, November 23 at 7:30 pm.
**McGILL OUTING CLUB**
Members who purchased cross-country ski equipment from Union, 12-2 this week.
**McGILL TA ASSOCIATION**
Meeting for all interested TA's. For info, phone 484-1706. Bronfman 562, Friday, November 22 at 12:30 pm.
**CENTRE d'ETUDES CANADIENNES FRANCAISES**
Presentent Daniel Perlstein du Conseil du Tresor du Quebec sur la nationalisation des choix budgetaires (P.P.B.S.) et la problematique de la planification. 3475 Peel, Salle 101, mardi, le 26 novembre a 4 pm.
**UKRAINIAN KLUB-DUMAYTY**
W. Tretiak will speak on "Ukrainian economies...?) amid a barrage of questions. L 821, Monday, November 25 at 6 pm.
**JAZZ BALLET**
Cancelled Friday, November 22.
**PHILOSOPHY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION**
All students taking a philosophy course welcome to meeting in SBB548, Friday November 22 at 1 pm.
**CHINESE CHORAL STUDENT GROUP**
Practice this week changed to Saturday 10:30 RVC.
**ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE AND REGIONAL INTEGRATION**
Presentations by Caribbean and Malaysian-Singapore societies. Speakers: H. Clark, K. Isaac, and J. de Wilde. All welcome. Union B26-27, Friday, November 22 at 7:30 pm.
**McGILL SKI CLUB**
Film "1973 Hotdog finals" will be shown in Union 124, Thursday through Saturday on the hour.
**CHINESE STUDENTS' SOCIETY**
Those asking for changes in the Society directory, notify us at P.O. Box 1642, Station B, Montreal before 30th November.
**REDMEN HOCKEY**
Trois Rivieres at McGill Friday, 8 pm.

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Leave NAME, PHONE OR ADDRESS
with the Students' Society Office
if you didn't receive
your money or books back from
the SECOND HAND
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DEADLINE: Friday, Nov. 22/74

Did you check
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BUY A CANDLE,
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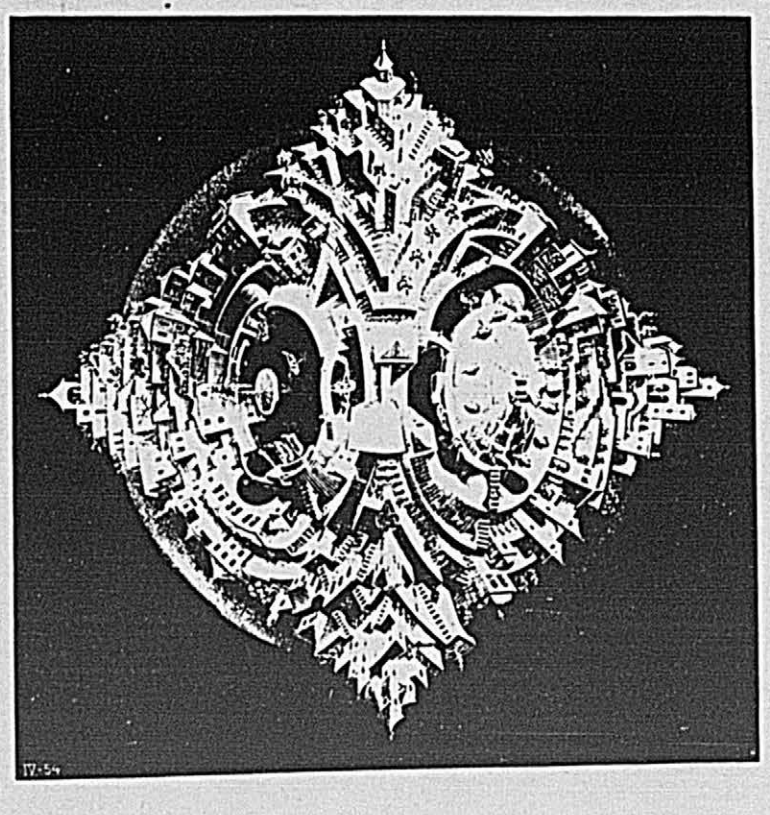

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Beer 50c
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•Fantastic Dancing Music
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•Spectacular Light Show
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# Students' Society Executive Applications

Are hereby re-opened for the following position:

## CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

**A $50 honorarium will be granted to the C.R.O.** for running the elections to take place on Thursday December 5, 1974.

Job description and duties of the C.R.O. can be found in the Constitution and By-Laws of the Students' Society in the Student Handbook.

*Application forms may be picked up at the Students' Council Offices in the University Centre.

**Completed application forms must be handed to the Secretary, Mrs. Haddad, no later than **Friday, November 22nd, 1974 at 4 p.m.**


## Happy Hour

4 - 6 pm


The International Students Association presents:

**"Economic Dependence and Regional Integration"**

from a Caribbean and Malaysian Perspective

Speakers — **Hugh Clark**
**Jim de Wilde**
**Keith Isaac**

Union—B26/27
3480 McTavish St.

Friday Nov. 22, 7:30 p.m.

# Students' Society By-Elections

## Tuesday, December 10, 1974

## Nominations Extended

for the following positions:

### STUDENTS' COUNCIL:

| | |
|---|---|
| Graduate Studies & Research | 1 Representative |

May be any graduate student in good standing with the University.

Nominations must be signed by at least 25 student members of the Faculty.

### SENATE:

| | |
|---|---|
| Dentistry | 1 Representative |
| Graduate Studies (Academic) | 1 Representative |
| Medicine | 1 Representative |
| Music | 1 Representative |

Candidates must be members of the McGill Students' Society and must be registered at McGill University as full time students in good standing following the normal load of courses per year.

Nominations must be signed by 50 students or 25% of the students of the Faculty or School concerned, whichever is less, together with year and faculty.

**ALL NOMINATIONS MUST CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING WORDS:**

**"We, the undersigned students, nominate .....**
**for the position of .....**

All nomination papers must have the candidate's signature together with his year and faculty, address, and telephone number.

***All nominations must be handed in personally to Mrs. Haddad at the Students' Society office in the Students' Union no later than

**4:00 p.m. Thursday, November 28, 1974**

# Students' Society Elections

## Tuesday, December 10, 1974

## Nominations Extended

for the following **Students' Council Representatives:**

1. Representatives from the following schools and faculties must be students in their **penultimate** year, and must be in good standing with the University.

| | |
|---|---|
| **ENGINEERING** | 1 Representative |
| **ARCHITECTURE** | 1 Representative |
| **EDUCATION** | 1 Representative |
| **MUSIC** | 1 Representative |
| **NURSING [B.Sc.N.]** | 1 Representative |
| **PHYSICAL & OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY** | 1 Representative |

2. Representatives from the following Schools and Faculties may be in any but their final year, having spent at least one full academic year at McGill University, and must be in good academic standing with the University.

| | |
|---|---|
| **DENTISTRY** | 1 Representative |

* All nominations must be signed by 25 students of the Faculty or School concerned, or by 25% of the students of the Faculty or School, whichever is less, and countersigned by the nominee with his address and phone number.

**Nominations must contain the following words:

**"We, the undersigned students, nominate .....**
**for the position of .....**

***All nominations must be handed in personally to Mrs. Haddad at the Students' Society office in the Students' Union by no later than

**4:00 p.m. Thursday, November 28, 1974**

# classifieds

These ads may be placed in the advertising office at the University Centre from 9 am to 5 pm. Ads received by 10 o'clock appear the following day. Rates: 3 consecutive insertions—$3.00 maximum 20 words. 15 cents per extra word.

### ENTERTAINMENT

**It's The Adventures of Goopy and Bagha** Friday Nov. 22; and **Shaft** Sat. Nov. 23. Both in L132. Brought to you by MFS: Info 392-8934.

**The Graduates' Society** presents **A BOY NAMED CHARLIE BROWN**, a full length feature of the Peanuts Gang. Saturday November 23, 11:00 and 1:30, Leacock 132. 50c.

### HOUSING

WANTED: APARTMENT (3½ rooms or more) in eastern area of Outremont between Van Horne and Mount Royal. Telephone: 392-8914 or 849-1718 (after 6 p.m.)

1 bedroom, kitchen, bathroom, available immediately. $85/mo. includes utilities. 3568 Hutchison. Call M.H. Gilden 484-3024

### WANTED

Garage space suitable for full-sized car, close to McGill campus. Call 842-0146.

Working mother of boy, 4, seeks similar to share live-in nanny. $6/day, $25/week. Westmount. 932-9900 evenings.

### FOR SALE

Winter coat, size 8. Brand new. Was $55, selling for $40. Call Lynn 366-4522.

**CORTINA 68**, 4 doors, automatic, good condition, $250 or best. Call Atef after 6; 255-3897.

### MISCELLANEOUS

Jessie, a pretty young cat is looking for a friend and home. Long-haired, house-trained, affectionate. 738-8500.

Join us for a weekly celebration of the Eucharist. Simple contemporary Anglican Liturgy. Every Fri. 1:00 Yellow Door Coffee House, second floor. Info: 392-4947.

### TYPING

Experienced typist wishes to type at home. Will pick up and deliver. 477-9342.

### JOBS

**Tutor** for Calculus I (CEGEP course) wanted. Paid hourly. Rate to be decided. 842-1366.

### PERSONAL

Problem? Feel you need to rap with a rabbi? Call Israel Hausman 341-3580.

Surprise! Happy 20th birthday, sweetheart! I love you, Chuck. Huge hugs and kisses, Holly.

**Happy, Happy Birthday**, Donald Duck Ass with Love, Squeezable Soft.

### LOST

**Please return** my wallet to the Daily Advertising Office. Lost in Redpath 10:30-11:30 the 18th. Keep the money — but I need everything else. Thanks, Pat Tryon.

Friday night, Nov. 15, small flat case with contact lenses, possibly in Arts, FDAA, or Leacock. Reward. 392-8068.